



THE JEWISH GAILY

פארשארד

SHA'AR ZAHAV

שער זהב

השון 5740 NOV 1979

off the (eastern) wall

Continuing what hopefully will be an annual tradition, we had near-capacity congregations for our High Holyday services. As those of you who were present can attest, our services were beautifully and smoothly conducted. A close feeling of being at ease with each other pervaded these Days of Awe. It would be appropriate at this point to recognize that all the coordinated Holyday activity didn't take place automatically. Rather, the hard work of many people insured the very gratifying results that we had. Because there were too many of you to thank individually, I'd like to wish a Yasher oach to all of you who helped--may you have increasing strength--especially for Sha'ar Zahav activities.

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Our 6 month lease with the JCC had expired and Ron Lezell, Mike F. and myself made a presentation to the Center Board of Directors to request a renewal of the lease. The Board unanimously voted to extend our lease while we look for a permanent home. But that's not the news, as much as the fact that we were so warmly received by the Board members. They clearly are pleased to enable us to have use of their facilities for our activities. In our part, we expressed our appreciation to them for the helpful and cooperative attitude with which the JCC staff has worked with us. Incidentally, the JCC would be very happy if more Sha'ar Zahav members also became Center members. If you join the JCC, be sure to tell them that you're a Sha'ar Zahav member too.

Shalom

Daniel Chesir, Co-leader

A rabbi review board of four members of the congregation has been appointed by the Executive Committee of the Va'ad.

The committee feels that in order to make a fair and unbiased recommendation to the Va'ad, we would solicit members only for a written evaluation of the Rabbi's performance and directional advice for the future.

Member's views are high on our list of evaluation points and your participation is greatly encouraged. Please be assured that all criticisms and views will be regarded in the strictest of confidence.

Please mail all correspondence to the committee chair:

Scott Klein
309 Walnut Street
San Francisco, CA 94118

From where i stand

As you read these words, I will be involved in a speaking tour of cities on the East Coast, where I will be addressing the memberships of our sibling congregations in New York, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and Miami. It is my hope that this trip will serve to bring us closer together in many productive and constructive ways.

First and foremost of these ways is that we can begin to organize a network of resource sharing from coast to coast and around the world. This ought to include things as basic as availability of worship materials and as esoteric as listings of organizational structures of the other congregations. The middle ground of all this will be the limitless area of idea exchange. As isolated as some of the gay synagogues seem to be, even within their own home communities, this trip should encourage all of us to strengthen our mutual support network.

I had hoped to go to Boston on this trip as well, and I had been asked to speak to a group of lesbian and gay seminarians at Harvard Divinity School, but my schedule will prevent me from doing that, much to my chagrin.

Even more important than the possibilities of what this trip can inaugurate are the realities which have made the trip possible. Two rabbis, the regional directors of the Pennsylvania Council/Philadelphia Federation and the Southeast Council/South Florida Federation of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations are the people behind the scenes, who invited me to speak to the gay synagogues in their areas, even though at the time, neither the Philadelphia nor the Miami congregations were members of the Union. Rabbis Address and Bogage are putting the resolutions that the UAHC passed a few years ago into practice, and for

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that I am extremely grateful. They, too, are blazing trails into frontiers where very few of my colleagues have dared to tread.

One other thought while I am away: I'll be on the lookout for exciting program and activity ideas in these various places along the way, and upon my return I hope to be able to report to you on a whole variety of things which we might be able to incorporate into our schedule. Already there have been some positive responses to the havurah idea, especially for opera fans and cycling aficionados. The havurah which is visiting the Hampshire Convalescent Hospital has made its second visit, and with great success, and I'm sure that study havurot and other similar activities are not far behind.

Our new year seems to have started well, and with God's help, we can progress in 5740 with the warmth and good spirit with which we began.

Allen

va'ad meeting

The December meeting of the Va'ad will be held at the residence of Ellis Jacobs, 245 Roosevelt Way, San Francisco, at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday November 28.

Va'ad meetings are open to all members of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

congregation meeting

The semi-annual Sha'ar Zahav Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday December 2, 1979 at the Jewish Community Center, 1200 California Street, San Francisco. There will be more information on this meeting later.

On October 14, 1979, the gay rights movement experienced an historic turning point. On that day, nearly 125,000 lesbians and gay men from every state and a number of foreign countries marched on the nations capitol to demand an end to the discrimination to which we are subjected.

In spite of controversy over the march within the gay community, and deficiencies in planning by the march committee, the first national march on Washington was an overwhelming success. The turnout exceeded the expectations of the march organizers, and the results of the "Day on the Hill" lobbying our Senators and Congressional Representatives were equally successful. The only blot on the weekend was the deliberate and malicious undercount of the crowd size by the press, led by the Washington Post's absolutely fictitious estimate of 25,000 (the estimate provided by the gay community's great and good friends, the National Park Police). My own and other peoples estimate of 125,000 is based on other marches we have attended, both in Washington and San Francisco.

It is almost impossible to describe the incredible emotional impact generated by the march. If someone had told me in 1970 or 1971, as I marched down Pennsylvania Avenue in opposition to the Vietnam War, that I would be there again, marching for gay rights, I would have thought they were hopeless idealists, And yet, there we were, marching past the White House, the Department of Justice, even the J. Edgar Hoover FBI Building (may he spin in his grave). The following day, hundreds of gay people met on Capitol Hill to lobby their Congressional representatives, We weren't meeting in back rooms, or someone's kitchen; we were meeting in the chandeliered splendor of a House caucus room. We were lobbying in support of a gay rights bill which has accumulated nearly 50 cosponsors, as opposed to only two when it was first introduced several sessions ago. The impact of visits by gay constituents to Senators and Representatives who never imagined such a thing existed in their districts **has been**

absolutely incalculable. One result of the lobbying effort is that additional members of Congress have agreed to co-sponsor the bill (H.R.2074). A Senate bill will be introduced soon by Senator Tsongas of Massachusetts.

Now we have to build on the success of the March and the "Day on the Hill". Sha'ar Zahavniks should be aware of the following ways they can help the movement keep and build its momentum:

- 1) The California equivalent of H.R. 2074 is A.B. 1. It is currently bottled up in the Assembly Ways and Means Committee. California Human Rights Advocates (C.H.R.A.), our lobbyists in Sacramento, want to stage a March on Sacramento when the legislature reconvenes in January. Sha'ar Zahav should be there. **SAVE THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 12-14, 1980**, for an unforgettable experience: a march on the the Capitol and a day of lobbying our state legislators. Passage in California will be an incredible boost for its Federal counterpart. On top of that the sight of 10,000 gay people in Sacramento will have the city and legislature talking of nithing else for the rest of the year. As soon as parade permits are final, you will be hearing more about the March on Sacramento in this space.
- 2) It is time for all of us to lend financial support to our State and Federal lobbyists. It's only by our efforts that C.H.R.A. and its Washington counterpart, the Gay Rights National Lobby, can pursue the advantage that we gained as a result of the march. Our lobbyists cant survive unpaid. Rest assured that our opposition, including the so-called "Christian Voice", has got lots of money to spend. We have to beat them at their own game.

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3) The Gay Rights National Lobby and the National Gay Task Force are co-sponsoring a National Convention Project, the purpose of which is to encourage gay people to become delegates to the national political conventions of both parties next year. The Project will provide advice and information to anyone who wishes to enter the delegate selection process, and to help gay delegates to the convention communicate with each other in order to provide a strong presence at the conventions. The project hopes to have a gay rights plank in each parties 1980 platform, which will help the ultimate passage of a gay rights bill. The Project will also need your financial support in order to succeed. If you are interested in the Project, or becoming a delegate, please get in touch with me at home (929-0162), or with the Project directly at 1606 17th St., N.W., Washington D.C. 20009; (202) 462-4255.

As you can see, the gay rights movement is now a real force nationally, not just in San Francisco. I hope that Sha'ar Zahav members will become integrally involved in making our civil rights a reality, and now just a dream. Please call me at any time to find more information of the Sacramento March and the lobbies in California and Washington. Together, we can accomplish anything.

Rob Montague

chavurah

A new chavurah (special interest group)
Bicycle riders and roller skaters. Lets get rollin.

Call Jac Lasner 863-9075 in SF or Dan Wylie 676-5719 in the east bay.

Recently when attempts were made to plant a "gay forest" in Israel, the Orthodox Rabbinate resisted the project, sparking more discussion of gay and lesbian rights than ever seen before in the Israeli media. In the Oct. 13 issue of the GCN, the Boston gay periodical, the Rev. Frederick L. Hirschman states that many American Christians would feel as did the Rabbinate about such an endeavor. States he, " . . . by now it must be obvious to any clear-thinking person that such trees will certainly not be able to reproduce themselves, hence they must RECRUIT.. Think of the horror of a whole forest of these depraved hybrids (for surely no tree is 'that way' in seed) sending out their rhizomes in search of innocent and unsuspecting young saplings to molest; deflowering the countryside, deaining the groves of their nectar and the nation of its horticultural vitality. The sturdy cedars of Lebanon transformed into limp-branched willows, the offspring of the mighty oak insisting upon being referred to as (gasp) "Myrtle".. once Israel's (or any nation's) forest are run over by these non-reproducing degenerates and their root systems choke out normal healthy plants, this means ROOT ROT, and with it THE END OF ALL TREES. Let the call go out over hill and dale for a return to sanity and the arboreal orthodoxy of our fathers"

The G40 Plus Newsletter.

conference

The Va'ad at its November meeting passed a resolution to sponsor the Fifth International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews in San Francisco, provided that enough people would volunteer to plan the Conference. Anyone who would like to chair the committee to make all the necessary arrangements to organize the Conference or who would like to assist in any way, please contact Daniel Chesir, 441-8116 or 557-1950.

The Coalition for Police Accountability will hold a public forum on November 15, at 7:30 p.m., at a location to be announced. The run-off candidates for Mayor and District Attorney, and the Chief of Police, President of the Police Commission, President of Officers for Justice, and President of the Police Officers Association, have been invited to respond to your questions about the San Francisco Police Department.

We urge you to put this date on your calendar, and to inform your associates, friends, and organizational members. The Coalition will be doing extensive outreach in all the neighborhoods of San Francisco, but we need your help in advertising the event.

In addition, if you can help us organize the event itself, please let me know.

The Coalition holds its normal monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, but due to the election in November, next month's meeting will be on Wednesday, November 8th, at 7:30 p.m., at 409 House, 409 Clayton St.

I hope to see you at both events

For the Coalition

Randy Stallings (731-3300)

reminder

Just a reminder, if you have recently moved or, more importantly, are planning to move, please send a change of address card to our Congregation at P. O. Box 5640, San Francisco, CA 94101 right away. Otherwise, it costs us 25¢ to get your change of address from the Post Office.

donations

Thanks to the following for their gifts to
Congregation Sha'ar Zahav:

Michael and Sharyn Baum
Michael Berry
Robert Bienstock
Sandee Blechman
Dr. Philip Charney
Daniel Chesir
Paul Cohen
Ed Ezra
Steven Fritch Rudser
David Glassberg
Allan Gold
Steven Goldberg
Audry Hallock and Gail Winston
Sharon Harrison
Frank Hyman
Howard Lader
Walter Leiss
Joyce Lindenbaum and Zoe Snyder
Anthony Gardiner Lowell
Richard Malvin
Dr. Martin Markowitz
Meyer Nathan
Steven Orlikoff
Leila Raim
Gerald Rosenstein
Barbara Safran and Elaine Zimmerman
Steven Schochet
Herb Schwartz
Roger Silver
Mark Weisman

birthdays

Joe Zygielbaum	November	2
Marcy Holzman	November	3
Haim Gamburg	November	11
Robert J. Smith	November	13
Leonard A. Malkin	November	15
Allan Blumenfeld	November	26

Oneg

The congregation wishes to thank the following people for their sponsorship of the Oneg Program:

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| October 12 | Bernard Pechter, to share his birthday with us. |
| October 19 | Alan Schrager, for the enjoyment of the congregation. |
| October 26 | Un-sponsored |
| November 2 | Ron Moskowitz, in memory of his Father's yahrzeit |

Onegs are such a wonderful way for socializing after Shabbat services. Sponsoring an oneg is a Mitzvah. If you want to commemorate, honor, memorialize, celebrate or just simply share, Oneg dates are available from November 30th. Please see me at Services or call me at home, 346-7077, to reserve your date.

Shalom
David Gass

services

The following members will be conducting services on Friday nights at Sha'ar Zahav:

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| November 2 | Scott Klein |
| November 9 | To be announced |
| November 16 | Daniel Chesir |
| November 23 | Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's
2nd Annual Thanksgiving
Ecumenical Service |
| November 30 | Rabbi Allen Bennett |

calendar of events

- November 9 Evening Services at 8:00 p.m.
Torah portion, Va-Yera, Gen.
18:1-22:24
Prophetic reading, II Kings
4:1-37
- November 16 Evening Services at 8:00 p.m.
Torah portion, Hayyei Sara,
Gen. 23:1-25:18
Prophetic reading, I Kings
1:1-31
- November 23 Evening Services at 8:00 p.m.
Torah portion, Toledot, Gen.
25:19-28:9
Prophetic reading, Mal. 1:1-
2:7
- November 30 Evening Services at 8:00 p.m.
Torah portion, Va-Yeze, Gen.
28:10-32:3
Prophetic reading, Hos. 12:13-
14:10
- December 7 Evening Services at 8:00 p.m.
Torah portion, Va-Yishlah, Gen.
32:4-36:43
Prophetic reading, Hos. 11:7-
12:12

congregation sha'ar zahav

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